

NEIGHBORHOOD BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES
AS ADOPTED BY SHERMAN PARK COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

1. This is our neighborhood. We must work together to keep it in a positive and safe place to be. The quality of life in our neighborhood depends on mutual respect and concern. We all must uphold a community standard.

2. Noise can be an intrusion. Do you know about the 50 foot rule? That's typically the distance from a porch to the street. Officers can issue citations for violations heard 50 feet. Music from any source, including car stereos, is too loud if it can be heard two houses away, if it can be heard inside another house with the windows closed, or if it interrupts another's activities. Please use common sense. Alert your visitors to this standard. Be especially aware after 8:00 A.M. or before 8 A.M.

3. Car horns are not door bells and can trigger a \$63 citation. Horns are only to be used in emergency situations. They are not for announcing your arrival or attracting attention. This is the law. Please refrain from using yours in non-emergencies, and ask your guests and visitors to do the same.

4. It's up to all of us to set a positive example in our neighborhood. Please be sure that language is not vulgar, racist, violent or abusive. Remember that there are many small children in the area and speak appropriately.

5. Alleys contain garbage, rocks, sharp glass and moving vehicles. They are not places for small children to play.

6. Remember, the speed limit on residential streets is 25 mph (and 15 mph in alleys). Please drive carefully, and be mindful of the many children in our neighborhood.

7. How we feel about our neighborhood has a lot to do with how our neighborhood looks. Overgrown weeds, eroded yards, trash anywhere (including in alleys), and generally uncared for property promote a negative image for our block. Call 286-8282 to report tall grass or weeds. Let's all do our part to make this a block we can be proud of.

8. Many of us have pets. If your pet spends time outside, please be sure to clean up after it, whether your yard or someone else's. Dogs should always be leashed, fenced, or supervised. The Humane Society should and will be called in the event of a loose animal.

9. Drugs will not be tolerated in our neighborhood. We must call the police anytime we detect the presence of any drugs in this neighborhood. The stability of our neighborhood depends on this.

10. Landlords who do not live in the area need to be responsible neighbors as well. Please rent to people you would like to live next door to, and keep your property in the same condition you would if it were your home. Landlords should consider joining a landlord compact. Information on landlords is available at www.milwaukee.gov under property data.

11. Although we do not currently have a gang problem in our neighborhood, we need to be alert and act accordingly if we see suspicious activity or graffiti. Graffiti should be reported to police and then removed immediately (Less than 24 hours).

12. All of our children deserve the care and concern of all of us. They are our future. We need to take responsibility for all of them, to watch out for all of them, and to take the time to teach them how important our neighborhood is.

13. We are fortunate to have an active Block Watch on our block. The only way to keep our neighborhood safe and secure is to keep our eyes open, report suspicious behavior, and know who our neighbors are. We cannot be afraid to get involved - it is the only way to maintain the good neighborhood we have.

Many of the problems mentioned can be solved with legal action. Although we prefer to deal with problems at the neighborhood level, we must be willing to report continuing situations to the proper authorities.

Your involvement is critical to building a new neighborhood. You are the most important resource we have. It's your home too!

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